

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to provide a cross-reference to the previously filed International Application.

The claims have been amended to delete improper multiple claim dependencies and to place the application into better form for examination. Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

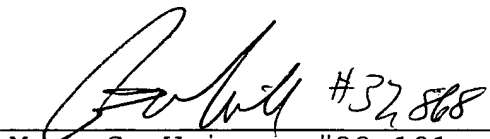
Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the application by this Amendment.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By

 #32,888

Marc S. Weiner, #32,181

MSW/cqc
0690-0115P

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

Attachment: VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

The claims have been amended as follows:

4. (Amended) Expression cassette as claimed in [one of the preceding claims]claim 1, wherein the receptor has affinity for a ligand.

7. (Amended) Expression cassette as claimed in [one of the preceding claims, wherein it moreover comprises]claim 1, further comprising a reversibly integrated resistance gene.

10. (Amended) Expression cassette as claimed in [one of the preceding claims, wherein it moreover comprises]claim 1 further comprising a second therapeutic gene.

12. (Amended) Expression cassette as claimed in [one of the preceding claims]claim 1, with coding sequences which code essentially for human or humanized gene products.

13. (Amended) Expression cassette as claimed in [one of the preceding claims]claim 1, wherein the ventricle-specific myosin-light chain-2 (MLC-2v) promoter is used as the organ-specific or tissue specific promotor.

15. (Amended) Expression cassette as claimed in [one of claims 13 to 14]claim 13 or 14, with coding sequences which code essentially for human or humanized gene products.

16. (Amended) Vector comprising an expression cassette as claimed in [one of claims 1 to 12]claim 1.

17. (Amended) Vector comprising an expression cassette as claimed in [one of claims 13 to 15]claim 13.

21. (Amended) Process as claimed in [one of claims 18 to 20]claim 18, wherein the embryonal stem cells are obtained from

c) blastocysts or

d) enucleated oocytes into which the nucleus of a[n] differentiated adult somatic cell has been transferred,

22. (Amended) Process as claimed in [one of claims 18 to 21]claim 18, wherein the receptor-specific ligands are coupled to paramagnetic microbeads and the ligand-marked cells are separated from the unmarked cells in a magnetic field.

23. (Amended) Process as claimed in [one of claims 18 to 22]claim 18 for producing autologous human somatic cells, the pluripotent precursor cells being obtained from an autologous human donor.

27. (Amended) Transgenic cardiomyocytes which can be obtained using a process as claimed in [one of claims 19 to 23]claim 19.

28. (Amended) Transgenic cardiomyocytes which can be obtained using a process as claimed in claim 18[or 20 to 23].

29. (Amended) Use of transgenic cells as claimed in [one of claims 24 to 28]claim 24 for preferably autologous cell transplantation, or for gene therapy, as especially for cell-mediated gene transplantation.

30. (Amended) Use of an expression cassette as claimed in [one of claims 1 to 15]claim 1 or of a vector as claimed in claim 16 [or 17] for genetic alteration of pluripotent precursor cells of a mammal.

31. (Amended) Use of an expression cassette as claimed in [one of claims 1 to 15]claim 1 or of a vector as claimed in claim 16 [or 17] for producing in vitro differentiated somatic cells of a mammal.